



# The Bookworm Ages 3-5

From your Local Library and Idaho's Read to Me Program

## Building Vocabulary

Research shows that children who know and understand lots of different words become better readers. Building a strong "vocabulary" helps children recognize and read written words, and later use them in their writing.

To help your child develop vocabulary:

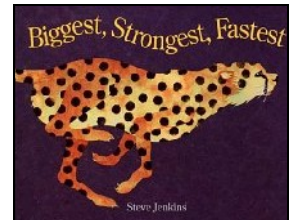
- Talk to your child, a lot! Research shows that parents who talk to their children more often have children with larger vocabularies, and those children better understand what they read.
- Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.
- Read to your child every day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations. Talk about the stories and the pictures in books.
- Learn together by reading nonfiction books. Help your child pick out information books about the things he or she is interested in.
- When your child talks to you, add more detail to what she says. Expand the conversation and ask lots of questions.

Parents who talk to their children throughout the day are giving them a gift. The language they learn will help them enjoy and understand the world around them and help prepare them to become lifelong learners.

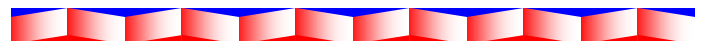
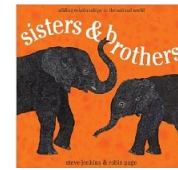
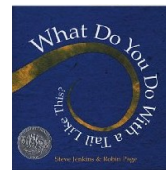
## Book of the Month

### *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest*, by Steve Jenkins

Beautiful paper cut-outs illustrate this picture book about some of the "biggest and smallest, fastest and slowest, strongest and longest" record holders in the animal world. Preschool children will want to read about these amazing facts over and over again!



*If your child enjoyed this book, check out some other books by author Steve Jenkins*



### More great books to help your child build vocabulary:

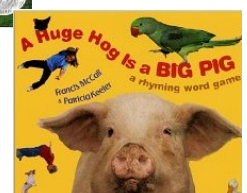
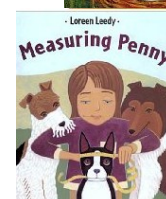
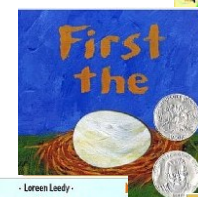
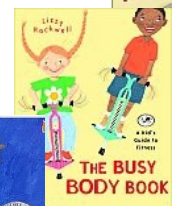
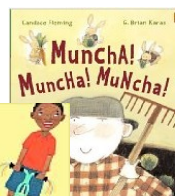
*Muncha, Muncha, Muncha*, Candace Fleming

*The Busy Body Book*, Lizzie Rockwell

*First the Egg*, Laura Vacaro Seeger

*Measuring Penny*, Loreen Leedy

*A Huge Hog is a Big Pig*, Francis McCall



## More fun with

### *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest...*

**Math connection...** There are many ways to measure things. Older children can begin to use tools such as rulers, but at this age children measure things by comparing size, length and weight. Find three objects around the house. Help your child arrange them in order from "smallest," to "bigger," and "biggest." This activity also helps children build vocabulary.



**Talk about it...** Help your child build words by talking about some of the describing words in the book. Ask, "What does it mean to be the 'largest?'" "What other words can we use for 'large?'" (big, huge, enormous).

**Out and about...** Talk about the things that catch your child's attention, such as color, shape, and smell, and ask lots of questions. "Wow, look at this rock you found! It is round and smooth, and it sparkles. Where did you find it? Can you find one that feels rough?"

### A Little Ball

A little ball

A larger ball

The largest ball I see

Shall we count them?

Are you ready?

One, two, three!



## Action Rhyme

### The Zoo

*A good poem to use with body movements and to have discussions about describing words*

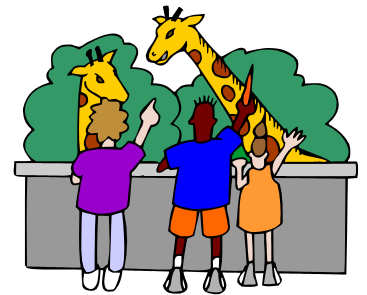
At the zoo we saw a bear  
He had long, dark fuzzy hair  
*pretend to walk etc. like a bear*

We saw a lion in a cage.  
He was in an awful rage.

*pretend to be a angry lion*

We saw the big, long-necked giraffe,  
And the silly monkeys made us laugh  
*everybody laugh*

But my favorite animal at the zoo  
Is the elephant--how about you?



### What your library can do for you...

Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Or you can ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!

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